PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re : Application of Nguyen et al.
For : **FABRIC SUPPORT FOR METAL REINFORCED INNER PLY OF RUNFLAT TIRE**
Serial No. :
Filed : concurrently herewith
Group Art Unit :
Examiner :
Our Docket No. : DN1999069USA

#4 Pre Amdt A 3-21-02

December 12, 2001

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment filed with a 35 U.S.C. 365 filing of a PCT International Application designating the United States.

Please amend the referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-6 and replace with claims 7-12 as follows:

Rule 1.126

7. A pneumatic radial ply runflat tire having a tread, two inextensible annular beads, a carcass structure comprising a metal reinforced first or inner carcass ply, a second or outer carcass ply and an inner liner, a belt structure located between the tread and the carcass structure, and two sidewall regions each being reinforced by at least one wedge insert, the tire being characterized by:

the metal reinforced first carcass ply being sandwiched between two circumferentially disposed fabric layers;

said layers comprising parallel-aligned cords having both radially inwardmost and radially outwardmost portions disposed within the respective sidewall regions.

9 8. The tire of claim 7 characterized in that the respective parallel-aligned cords of each of the two circumferentially disposed fabric layers in the respective sidewall regions are oriented at opposite angles of between 20 degrees and 50 degrees to each other in the circumferential direction.

10 9. The tire of claim 7 characterized in that the two circumferentially disposed fabric layers in the respective sidewall regions have radial width of between 20 percent and 80 percent of the